



## PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release

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### **Mayor Hancock and Library Administration Announce Ballot Initiative Decision**

DENVER – Mayor Michael B. Hancock met with City Librarian Shirley Amore and Library Commission President Kevin O’Connor today to discuss long-term funding solutions for the Denver Public Library. As a team, they concluded that the City will not pursue a measure to pass a dedicated mill levy or library district on the November 2011 ballot.

“The responsible action to the taxpayers of Denver is to consider all options when addressing city services and structural imbalances,” Mayor Hancock said. “We will take a comprehensive look at all long-term solutions before we put any initiative to the voters.”

Discussions regarding ballot initiatives will resume after the City’s Structural Financial Taskforce presents their recommendations this fall. The Mayor looks forward to working in partnership with the Library Administration and Denver residents to find a sustainable funding solution for the city’s beloved libraries.

“Our libraries positively affect the education of our residents and the quality of life here in Denver,” Mayor Hancock said. “As a city, we cannot accept the closure of our recreation centers, schools and libraries as a solution to our fiscal challenges and still expect to come out of this recession stronger.”

"The Denver Public Library has been undergoing budget cuts for several years and it's time for a long-term funding solution," said City Librarian Shirley Amore. "We are fortunate to have a Mayor that understands the value libraries bring to the community -- for economic development and strengthening our community through building a more educated, literate society. We look forward to working with the new Administration and the public on finding the best solution for all."

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About Denver Public Library

*Founded in 1889, the Denver Public Library (DPL) is a vital community resource—free and open to all. With 24 locations, the Library connects Denver residents to information, ideas and experiences that enrich their lives and strengthens our community. The Library plays an important role in advancing reading and literacy from birth through adulthood and is a key link in developing a knowledgeable, productive workforce and fostering economic development.*